

REMARKS

Claims 16-20 are now pending in the present application.

✓ Claims 1-15 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

The Examiner has given the following Restriction Requirement:
Group I, claims 16-21, drawn to a semiconductor device; and
Group II, claims 1-15, drawn to a method of making a semiconductor device.

In response to this requirement, Applicants hereby elect Group I, claims 16-20 drawn to a semiconductor device. This election is with traverse.

It is noted that the Examiner indicated that Group I includes claim 21. However, since there is currently no claim 21 in the present application, it is believed that this is simply a typographical error on the part of the Examiner.

It is also noted that non-elected claims 1-15 have been canceled simply to expedite prosecution of this application. Applicants reserve the right to file a Divisional application at a later time, if so desired.

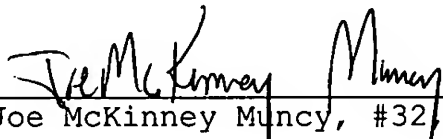
In the event there are any outstanding matters remaining in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

Favorable reconsideration and an early Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By 
Joe McKinney Muncy, #32,334

KM/asc
0941-0382P

P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000